

ACCOUNT¹²

OF THE

Life, Adventures and Transactions

OF

Robert Ramsey, alias Sir Robert Gray,

From his Birth to his Execution at Tyburn, on Wednesday, the Thirteenth of January 1741-2.

CONTAINING,

- | | |
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| <p>I. His Birth and Education; his being put Apprentice to a Chymist; his early Inclination to Tricking; his getting acquainted with <i>Car</i>, &c.</p> <p>II. Their Manner of Living for some Time at <i>Hampstead</i>, &c. where <i>Ramsey</i> pass'd for a Gentleman of a good Estate, but not of Age, and <i>Car</i> for his Footman.</p> <p>III. Their Manner of Bilking and Robbing several Taverns till they were detected, and committed to Prison, whence <i>Ramsey</i> made his Escape by giving the Keeper some Laudanum.</p> <p>IV. Their Robbing several Doctors, Apothecaries, &c. a particular Trick <i>Ramsey</i> put upon a Lady of Quality.</p> <p>V. An Authentic Account of defrauding Mr. <i>Hoare</i> and Comp.</p> | <p>Bankers of 75 l. by forging a Note in Conjunction with <i>Cross</i> and <i>Sands</i>; their flying for the same; their being apprehended, and brought to <i>London</i>, where <i>Ramsey</i> turn'd Evidence, against <i>Cross</i> and <i>Car</i>.</p> <p>VI. His Acquaintance with <i>Snow</i> (since transported) their Journey to <i>Bristol</i>, turning <i>Methodists</i>, from whence they made off with a large Part of the Religious Collection, &c.</p> <p>VII. A Full Account of the several Robberies committed by <i>Robert Ramsey</i> and his Brother <i>John</i>, till the last committed at Mr. <i>Glynn's</i> in <i>Hatten-Garden</i>. In which <i>John</i> was admitted an Evidence, and for which <i>Robert Ramsey</i> suffer'd Death.</p> |
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The Whole collected from the Relation of his Brother JOHN RAMSEY, and published to deter Others from the like wicked Practices.

L O N D O N:

Printed for H. GOREHAM, at the Bible in Vine-Office-Court, Fleetstreet. 1742. (Price Six-Pence).

ACCOUNT

OF THE

Life, Adventures and Travels

OF

James Oglethorpe, Esq.

First Discoverer of the River of St. Johns, and

of the Province of Georgia.

By William Oglethorpe, Esq.

Second Discoverer of the River of St. Johns, and

of the Province of Georgia.

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TO THE
PUBLICK.



*E beg leave to inform
you of the Reason of de-
ferring the Publication
of this Account, so long
after the Execution of
the unhappy Subject*

*thereof; which is, that as several spu-
rious Accounts, have been publish'd of
him; made from Circumstances or fic-
titious Stories, who think it no Crime to
load the Criminals who suffer the Law
with more Infamy, then they really
deserve. The Printer hereof far from
imposing such Trash upon the Public, has
been at extraordinary Pains, to be in-
form'd*

form'd of the Truth, and to set every particular Transaction in its right Light, and at the same time, that he does not aggravate Ramsey's Faults, gives a full and true Narration of his Villanies, in order to prevent the World from being deceived in the like Manner, so that without Prevarication, he affirms this to be the only true and genuine Account of the Life, &c. of Robert Ramsey; which it is to be presumed, you will the readier believe, when you consider that his own Brother must be better acquainted therewith than a Stranger.



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THE
L I F E
O F
ROBERT RAMSEY.



THE Public is intitled to a particular Account of the Lives and Transactions of those Persons, who by a Series of Villany have render'd themselves infamous, that we may be taught to avoid falling into their Errors, as well as those who have deserved well of Mankind that we may be urged by Example to emulate them.

The following Memoirs are to be rank'd in the first Class, and as the Person who gives the Narration may probably be censured for so doing, we wou'd offer the following Considerations to the World, and then leave it to any impartial Judge to determine, whether he is to blame or not. *Brother* appearing as Evidence against
B *Brother,*

Brother may, at first View appear to be bad, but when we recollect that the Person condemned had been an Evidence before that he drew in his *Brother* by artful Perswasions and Insinuations to become an Accomplice in his Designs, that there was a Woman, a third Person, concerned who had it in her Power to accuse them both. This joined with the natural Love of Life, which is implanted in the Breast of us all, will plead an Excuse, as his giving the following Account proves his Regret of having engaged in such pernicious Schemes, and his utter Disavowal and Detestation of them for the future. But to proceed in the Narration.

ROBERT RAMSEY is now about twenty-seven Years of Age, being born in the Year 1714 ; his Family which is very ancient, and related to several of the best in *Scotland*, seem'd to be declining before this unfortunate Youth was born to close it with Infamy and Disgrace ; for their Father, who was a Baronet, as his Son has since pretended to be, found himself in Possession of a very large Fortune, which by a long Series of Excess and Gaming, he reduc'd from several Thousands a-year to next to Nothing ; insomuch that tho' he took Care to give his Sons (especially *Robert*) a very liberal Education, yet he left them nothing to support it ; so that they were put Apprentices to different Trades, *Robert* being a good Scholar was taken by two Chymists in *Brookstreet, Grovesnor Square*, and *John* the Younger was put to learn the Art of Snuff-box making, which lies chiefly among the *French* Folks.

Before

Before *Robert* had served out Half his Apprenticeship, his Masters became Bankrupts, and he was turn'd adrift in the World to provide for himself ; he got into several Places as a Journeyman, but not being thoroughly acquainted with the Business ; he was put to only the Drudgery in it ; which not suiting with his politer Notions of Life, soon made him grow weary of the Business, and by getting into an idle Sort of a Life he us'd to frequent Places of Diversion about the Town, and it being Summer-time, there was a Company of Comedians which performed at *Hampstead* ; among these was one *Cunningham*, a young Lad, who was a Singer ; *Ramsay* and he soon became intimately acquainted, for *Ramsay* having a deal of idle Time upon his Hands, he thought it very agreeably pass'd away in being present every Night at their Diversions, which by the Interest of *Cunningham*, he was admitted to *gratis*.

Carr who had served some of the Performers, as a Lad to dress them, &c. by that Means was acquainted with *Cunningham*, and consequently with *Ramsay*. *Carr* had before this been turn'd off for exercising his Talent at the Play-house ; and therefore as he could not bear to be idle, and both *Ramsay* and he beginning to want Money, upon conferring of Notes they found that their Genius exactly suited each other ; and therefore agreed to put their Schemes in Practice ; but as *Ramsay* was the best Scholar, had a good Education, and could say the most for himself, *Carr* readily submitted the Superiority to him, and in all Places took an Opportunity of telling that he was a Baronet's Brother, tho' under Age, and was then at Law for an Estate which was unjustly detained from him ; and that his Guardians used him ill in not supporting him according to his

Dignity. Upon the Strength of this they took in several People at *Hampstead* for Lodging, Reconings and small Sums of Money, 'till they staid so long that People began to grow weary of them, and with the young Baronet had received his Fortune.

In short, their Affairs were so low reduc'd at last that they were forced to look sharp for a Dinner. One *Sunday*, when they were reduc'd to this Dilemma, *Carr* spied a Woman going towards the Bakehouse, with a Ticket pinn'd to her Arm, and imagining, if he could get the Ticket, that it would help them to something to relieve their craving Stomachs, he contrives how to get the Ticket, and going up to the Woman he told her some unlucky Rogue or other had flung something upon her Gown, and very officiously pretended to brush it off with his Hand, and at the same Time very dexterously slipp'd off the Ticket: The Woman was very full of Thanks for the Favour, and meeting with a Friend, she never miss'd the Ticket, but went into the Chandler's Shop to refresh herself with a Dram, which gave *Carr* an Opportunity to go to the Bakehouse which was a pretty Way up the Town, and there producing his Ticket, he found in return a very fine Pidgeon Pye ready drawn, which he whipp'd down a back Lane with to their Lodging, and regaled his fasting Companions.

They play'd several Pranks of the like Nature, during their Stay there without being discover'd; but the Summer growing towards an End, and their Credit being stretch'd to the utmost they thought proper to retire, and go in Search of other Adventures; all Manner of Business was grown irksome to them, and this idle Way of Life was all they delighted in. *Carr*, having

having by some Means or other raised a little Money, agreed to try his Fortune at my Lord M--n's Gaming-Table in *Covent-Garden*; a College which hath bred up more young Fellows to the Gallows, besides *Carr* and *Ramsey*, and which whoever frequents bids fair for meriting in some Shape or other.

Their Success among that Crowd of Bubbles and Iniquity however enabled them to equip themselves for Exploits of another Nature; *Ramsey* during the Time he had been instructed in Chymistry found Means to discover the worst Part of it, that is he had got a Liquid which being laid on a Guinea, half Guinea or so, wou'd eat off eighteen Penny-worth, or two Shillings, of Gold without defacing the Coin, or being in the least preceptible, unless by Weight. They continued this Practice a considerable Time with Success, and by this Means *Ramsey* being expert in some chymical Terms endeavour'd to persuade several ignorant People that he was possessed of the Philosopher's Stone; and one of their Tricks here deserves Mention, which if they had never been guilty of any worse, the World wou'd not have condemned them for.

A certain Publican who had run thro' most of the Scenes of low Life. and was set up in a Part of the Town where none but *Knowing Ones* (as he terms 'em) can possibly live; gave Harbour to *Ramsey*, and his Companions, he seeing them pretty flush of Money, and finding that they did not go upon any *Lay*, took the Liberty one Day to ask his Guests, by what Method they subsisted in such a Manner, and that if they had any *Ways* and *Means* that were new, and which he was unacquainted with (tho' he thought he knew them all) if they wou'd let him into the Secret, he wou'd

wou'd make 'em a handsome Present, and promise to keep it an inviolable Secret; *Ramsley* seemed very backward to consent, and put him off the Inquiry as much as possible; the more they scrupled to tell him, the more he was pressing to know; at length by the persuasive Eloquence of a Crown Bowl of Punch, and in order to oblige so dear a Friend as him, tho' they wou'd not do it to any other Person in the World upon any Consideration whatever; but they valued his Friendship at so high a Rate that if he wou'd swear Secresy even from his Wife, they wou'd tell him; he eagerly swallow'd the Bait, and then *Ramsley* in great Confidence assur'd him that he had found out a chymical Preparation that answer'd all the Ends of the Philosopher's Stone, and would convert the basest Metal into Gold, and that if he wou'd be concern'd with them he shou'd equally partake of the Profits, he very readily consents, and to work they go with the Dishes, Plates, Pots, Saussepans, &c. which they really converted into Gold by the Assistance of the Broker, and gave him but a very small Share of the Profit; the Wife storms at seeing her House thus stripp'd by her Husband's Consent, and gets no other Answer than that she may hold her Tongue. For that they are dispos'd of to obtain Riches, and that if she continues to grumble thus, she shall share none of the good Fortune. So the Poor Woman is forc'd to be quiet, and in a little Time her wife Husband is oblig'd to quit his House, and look out for another Case.

Ramsley being tired of thus skulking about, upon this Success he equipps himself like a Gentleman, and takes upon himself the Title of *Sir Robert Gray*, and *Carr* appear'd as his Footman; and in this Disguise they used to go up and down

down to Taverns, run up a Reckoning, then watch their Opportunity and bilk them, carrying off with them Spoons, Salts, or whatever else suited them. They had various Methods of doing this, either sitting in a Room next the Street, and so take their Opportunity to escape out of Window, or by sending the Drawer on some frivolous Pretence, come down, and say they had paid him. But their common Way was in putting on the Gentleman and *Ramsley's* saying that his Father lived in such a Place, and he had expected a Person to bring him Money, who had disappointed him, but if he would send his Drawer home with them, his Reckoning shou'd be discharged, but as it was late he was not willing to disturb the House, therefore he would call in the Morning and pay it, his Appearance and genteel Behaviour pleaded in his Behalf, and by this Means he got free at several Places, tho' had the worst happen'd and the Drawer shou'd go with them they were provided against it. As for Instance, they were once upon this Footing at a Tavern near *Leicester Fields*, where after *Ramsley* and his Mistress had had an elegant Supper *Carr* who was the Footman was sent to wait in the Kitchen where it was his Business to *make* what Plate he conveniently cou'd. When they had drank a Bottle after Supper and it grew late, the Lady was dismiss'd, and *Ramsley* rung for the Master to go up. He told him that he was short of Money, but that his Father lived in *Westminster*, and if he wou'd send the Drawer with him he wou'd pay him the Money. Now this was their Scheme, they had found out a large empty House in *Westminster*, by the Water Side, and *Carr's* Cue was when he saw his Master did not readily come down, to get away, and be ready there

there against they came. He did so then, and the Master of the Tavern not having altogether so much Faith as some of his Fraternity had had before him, sent the Drawer with him; *Ramsley* walks along with the Drawer very contentedly knowing his Companion wou'd be ready for him, and when they came there, after he had knock'd at the Door two or three Times; *Carr* came to the Door quite undress'd and yawning as if he were just wak'd out of his Sleep, and telling him, that his Father was gone to Bed very angry at his being out so late, *Ramsley* begg'd the Drawer that he wou'd not disturb the Family, but assured him if he wou'd wait at the Door a few Minutes he would fetch him his Money; accordingly they went in, and having a Boat waiting at the Yard Door to the Water side they got in, row'd away, and never troubled themselves about the poor Drawer. And bilking of Chairmen and Hackney Coachmen was a daily Practice with them.

They continued this Practice two or three Years without being apprehended, or any thing material happening, 'till they were met with at last at the *Cross Keys* Tavern in *Holbourn*, where *Ramsley* came in a Coach with a Lady, attended by his Footman *Carr*; he ordered a Supper and with that and Wine the Reckoning came to about a Guinea; *Carr* according to Custom was order'd into the Kitchen, and his Master very kindly sent him some Wine, *Carr* soon laid hold of a Spoon and made some Excuse to get away, but the poor Baronet got into a woful Pickle, for he had escap'd out of Window but was perceived by the Drawer who followed him, he had got into a Yard where he was entirely at a Loss, and not knowing which way he went, he ran direct into a Horsepond; finding that he cou'd not
 scape

scape, and the Drawer continued abusing him
 and called for Help, he puts on a Resolute Air
 and cries, G—d d—e Sir! I am a Gentleman,
 therefore though I have done a wrong Thing yet
 I will be like a Gentleman. Upon this the Master
 order'd him to come out; which he did, and
 they got him some clean Things to put on, and
 used him very civilly, in return of which, he
 told him, that if he wou'd send the Drawer with
 him to *Westminster*, he had a Gentleman there who
 wou'd pay him the Money. They seem'd un-
 willing to trust him, but upon the Drawer's un-
 dertaking to escorte him safe, the Master at length
 consented. While this was in Agitation, he was
 contriving all the Methods he cou'd to give them
 the Slip, for he was doubtful what was become
 of *Carr*, and whether their usual Stratagem of
 their empty House and the Boat wou'd succeed
 or not.—However they walk'd forwards to *West-*
minster, and *Ramsay* endeavouring to get away
 from the Drawer, the Fellow very resolutely car-
 ries him before Justice *Deveil* who thought proper
 to commit him to the Gatehouse, some short
 Time afterwards *Carr* was apprehended and com-
 mitted to *Totbill Fields* Bridewell; *Carr* no sooner
 found himself confined, but being conscious to
 himself, that they had follow'd this Course so
 long that somebody must appear against them,
 he sent Word to the Justice that if he would ad-
 mit him he wou'd turn Evidence, and this he had
 certainly done and ended, Mr. *Ramsay's* Reign
 much sooner than it now hath been; if he had
 not in the Interim made the Keeper drunk, and by
 that Means escaped. When *Carr* was got off,
 there was no other Evidence against *Ramsay*,
 what he committed at the *Cross Keys* not being
 sufficient, the Justice thinking him to be a great
 C Offender,

Offender, yet for want of Evidence was obliged, tho' very much against his Will to discharge him.

Carr upon his Escape from *Bridewell* was obliged to take his Route further off, and *Ramsley* was sometime at a Loss for a Companion, at last he found one to his Mind, one *Udal* who is since hanged.

The only Thing of any Note which he committed with *Udal* was as followeth (tho' this has been laid to the Charge of one *Lluellin*, who was since executed, yet the World may be assured, that *Ramsley* and *Udal* were the Persons who did it) *Udal* was now his Footman, instead of *Carr*, and he having been bred a Watch-maker got acquainted with a Servant of Lady *M—e's* in *Soho* Square, by mending his Watch for him, and finding that his Lady was ill, and attended by Dr. *P-mbt-ee*, he acquainted *Ramsley* with it, and withal that there was a large Quantity of Plate to come at, if they could contrive cleverly. *Ramsley* was not long in putting it in Execution, but took Coach, attended by his Footman *Udal*, but first of all he had procured a black Suit of Cloaths, and endeavoured to appear as like a Doctor as possible, and in this Manner he went to the Lady's. Her Distemper had fell into her Eyes, and therefore *Ramsley* pretended, that his Father old Dr. *P—e* had thought of something which would be very serviceable to her, and not being able to attend her Ladyship himself, had sent him (his Son) to administer it. This Message was carried up to the Lady, who immediately order'd the young Doctor to be shewn up into her Room; *Udal* was invited into the Kitchen by the Servants, and *Ramsley* went up Stairs; he applied himself very

hand

handily to administer the Remedy, and told her Ladyship that it was proper, after the laying on the Specific, that she should keep herself composed, and as much as possible in the Dark, for that too much Light wou'd render it ineffectual; she was very glad to try any Thing that wou'd do her good, and especially as it came as she thought from Dr. *P—ee*. *Ramsley*, after laying her Head back upon a Pillow, claps two Guineas on her Eyelids to keep them shut whilst he cou'd take a Survey of the Room; this being done, he with a small Feather anoints her Eyelids with the Snuff he had prepar'd, which was calculated rather to shut than open her Eyes; the Room was immediately darkened, and she lay down to compose herself, he sat by her for some Time asking her if she found any Benefit from his Appliance, which she acknowledged she had; (so prevalent is Fancy in such Cases oftentimes.) But whether the Patient received any Good or not the Doctor was resolved that he wou'd, and having before mark'd where her Gold Watch and Diamond Buckle lay, he very orderly puts them in his Hat, with his Handkerchief spread carelessly over them, and taking his Leave of the Lady walks very orderly down Stairs; when he came down his Footman *Udal* was called, who had not been idle, but made himself Master of what stragling silver Spoons he cou'd meet with; any Body wou'd have Thought, that this Booty might have satisfied Mr. *Ramsley* at one Time; but he saw a Sideboard of Plate in the Parlour, and was not willing to leave the House before he had made what he cou'd of it, and accordingly pretending that he was very dry, desired the Footman to give him some Table Beer, which whilst he was gone to draw, Mr. *Ramsley* and his

Footman made bold to convey all the Plate they conveniently cou'd to the Amount of about 50 *l.* into the Coach, then drinking his Beer in the Hall, he gave the Footman a Crown, and very genteely drove off with all his Plunder, which was very considerable, for he afterwards sold the Girdle Buckle alone for 80 Guineas.

Udal and he were concerned together in several other Things of the like Nature, 'till *Udal* got into a Scrape for something he had transacted by himself, and was obliged to abscond; and *Carr* thinking that by this Time the Remembrance of him was pretty well wore out, ventured to appear again in Town: *Ramsley* was very glad to meet his Acquaintance, but thought that as they had sufficiently tired out the Taverns, they must not attempt any more Works of that Kind, and therefore proposed another Method, adding, that he thought his Knighthood grew troublesom to him, and he wou'd very willingly part with his fictitious Dignity 'till he saw a proper Time to resume it, and that in the mean Time they wou'd not impose on the Innocent, but on those, who like themselves liv'd by Impositions, tho' they were within the Law meaning the Quacks and Pretenders to Physick; and in Pursuance of this Resolution they agreed to go a *clacking the Doctor* (as they call'd it:)

Their first Attempt in their new Undertaking was upon a famous *hand-bill* Doctor in *Ratcliffe Highway*, *Carr* was to represent a young Gentleman who was Clerk to an eminent Merchant of the City, and to say that he had met with a Misfortune in the Wars of *Venus*, and by *Ramsley's* Recommendations (who had before experienc'd the Efficacy of the Doctor's Prescriptions) that he applied to him for Relief in his Circumstances, and

and depended upon his Skill for a Cure, and his Fidelity to keep it secret, and accordingly they went to his House, where the Maid informed them that her Master was very ill, but that the Case they came about required Dispatch, she wou'd shew them up to his Chamber; they went, and put to their Purpose the Doctor was in a sound Sleep, they did not think proper to wake him, but seeing his Gold Watch hang upon a Sconce, they made bold with that, which pleas'd them better than all the Advice he cou'd have given them, they went away very well satisfied, and without being ask'd any Questions. This Success embolden'd them, and having learnt Mr. W---n---t's Name and Circumstances who keeps a Shop in *Hanover-Street, Long-Acre*, they watch'd an Opportunity when he was out, and knowing that only his Daughter was at Home, they very confidently went to the Shop, and asking if he was at Home, said, they had got a Recipe for some Medicine, and being informed of his great Skill in his Profession they wanted him to make it up immediately; his Daughter told them that her Father was not at Home but if they would be pleas'd to walk in and sit down, he was but at a Coffeehouse in the Neighbourhead, and she wou'd go and call him. They accepted of the Invitation, to be sure, and while the young Gentlewoman was officiously gone to fetch her Father they were as industrious to snatch up what they cou'd find, which was a Suit of Cloaths and a Tye Wig: This was but a small Booty, but they play'd at small Game, rather than stand out, and march'd off undiscover'd.

Another Time Carr was dress'd up like a Country Man, and Ramsey as a Physician, their design then was upon one Mr. R---t's in *Bond-Street*,

Street, and they waited some Time before he went out, so long, that they thought they must quit their Enterprize for that Time; but at last unluckily for him he went to visit some Patients, and no sooner was he gone, but Dr *Ramsley* introduces his Patient. The Maid not in the least suspecting any thing shew'd them into the Parlour, and desir'd them to stay 'till her Master shou'd return; *Carr* pretended to be very ill, and *Ramsley* shew'd the tenderest Concern imaginable for his Patient, at length he told the Maid if she wou'd get a Pint of warm Ale, he wou'd give him some Drops that wou'd give him immediate Ease; the Maid very readily went to the Alehouse for the Pint of Ale, and the sham Doctor and his Patient march'd off with the real one's Seringe, a Silver Hilted Sword, a Watch, a Tankard, a Tie Wig and a Suit of Cloaths, the Wig being a very good one, *Ramsley* had it alter'd, and wore it himself.

Another Time as they were walking along seeking what they could find, they observed a Gentleman just come out of the Country at an Inn-Door calling a Porter, and *Ramsley* listen'd to the Instructions which were given him; which were to take his Portmanteau and carry it to *Furnival's* Inn in *Holborn*, they immediately post away to get to the Place before the Fellow, *Ramsley* went into the Coffee-house to wait, and *Carr* staid at the Door to give Notice when the Porter came with the Portmanteau, they had not waited long before the Fellow came, and *Carr* began cursing and swearing at him for not coming sooner, telling him that his Master was very angry. The Porter made a great many Excuses, seem'd loath to deliver it 'till *Ramsley* came to the Door, and seconding his Man *Carr* bade

Porter.

Porter deliver it to his Footman, who did accordingly, and being paid for his Trouble went away very well satisfied ; they immediately carried it to their Lodgings and found some Linnen and other Things of Value, and three hundred Pouuds in Money ; this was divided equally between them, and they equipp'd themselves like Gentlemen, but *Ramsley* being apprehensive that some Persons at the Coffe-house knew him, and that by their Means the Porter might discover the Affair, they agreed to go into the Country, and try what they cou'd do there ; they got acquainted with one *H—es* a young Fellow whose Friends had provided handsomely for him, but by his Extravagance and frequenting that fatal House in the Piazza, *Covent Garden*, he had run thro' all he had, and contracted this Acquaintance, which had very near brought him to the Gallows. *H—es* was reduced to Necessity, and seeing *Ramsley* always have Money at Command, and knowing that he had no ways of getting it, but by Gaming, and that even there he frequently lost considerable Sums, made Use of the Friendship he had there unhappily contracted with them to enquire how they managed to appear so decently, and command such Plenty of Money, without any visible Income, *Ramsley* finding him fit for his Purpose, told him the various Methods they made use of and invited him to accompany them ; *H—es* readily contented and they set out for *Coventry*, *Ramsley* was created a Baronet again, *Carr* was reduced to his pristine Estate of a Footman, and their new Companion was the Baronet's Gentleman, they staid some Time up and down the Country, spending the Money they had got without obtaining any new Booty, 'till they got to *Coester*. They put up there at one of the best Inns,

Inns, and told the Story over again which they had practised at *Hampstead*, they lived in an elegant Manner 'till their Money began to fall short, and besides that they had run up a pretty large Score; *Ramsay* finding no other Way to get off, had Recourse to the old Method which has been too long practised with Success, that is telling the Landlord that he had some Pieces of Gold of particular Coin and that he wou'd leave them in his Hands 'till he shou'd go to *London*, and then he wou'd either return or send and redeem them, but that as he shou'd want Money in the mean Time, if he, the Landlord wou'd advance him so much he wou'd pay that and the Bill together; their Project succeeded, and the Whole amounted to about 400 *l.* in lieu of which they left him a Bag of Leaden Pieces, &c. and came triumphantly away.

Luckily for their Companion *H—es* when they came to Town, his Friends who had got some Notion of what Course of Life he was concerned in, got him away and perswaded him to go to one of our Colonies where they had provided a handsome Post for him, and which certainly saved him from inevitable Destruction, had he staid.

Their being in Town produced no extraordinary Exploit, till they counterfeited a Draught upon Messieurs *Hoare*, &c. in *Fleet-street*; both *Ramsay* and *Carr* frequented the Gaming Table in *Covent Garden*, and lived chiefly by that, and being pretty often playing at Billiards; during this Space of Time they became acquainted with *Thomas Cross*, the unhappy Person who is now confined in *Newgate* on that Affair, and again whom and *Carr*, *Ramsay* was admitted an Evidence; they us'd to frequent several Public Houses together, particularly one in *Arundel-street*

Cross who like the rest had brought himself to Beggary by Extravagancies, gave out in Speeches that he had a near Relation beyond Sea who wou'd take him from the low Fortune he had been in for some Time, which was that of a Footman, and by giving him an Education render him able to go over to him, and transact his Business, whether this was true or not we cannot tell, however this is certain that he was instructed in Writing, &c. and by that Means got into Business, he was for some Time with a Gentleman who had Chambers in the Temple, and by whom he was entrusted with considerable Sums of Money without embezzling any. But notwithstanding he might have otherwise done very well, yet the Debts he had contracted by keeping such extravagant Company as *Ramsley*, &c. made him unable to keep his Place, and that Reason only obliged him to quit it. This was about twelve-months before he was tried for the Forgery. When he had quitted this Place, he could not escape his Creditors, but was arrested and carried to a Spunging House in *Gracer's Alley*; he was visited there by one Mr. *Davis*, who found his Companions *Carr* and *Ramsley* with him, and among other Discourse *Cross* was observing, that he had been entrusted but the Day before with a large Sum of Money of Mr. *Payne's* in *Portugal* Pieces, and wishing that that Money had been his own, and he need not then have been in such Circumstances; *Ramsley* immediately replied that he was a D—d Fool he had not run away with it, upon which *Cross* answer'd, No, he wou'd not forfeit his Character for ten times the Sum. However *Cross*, as we may imagine, by the Perswasions of *Ramsley* and his Accomplices was induced to counterfeit the Draught for which he now lies in *Newgate*; he had by be-

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ing entrusted by the Gentleman whom he served as Clerk an Opportunity of doing Business for Mr. *Payne*, and which was the Reason that Mr. *Payne* reposed such a Confidence in him ; and the Fact for which he suffer'd was as follows. On *Thursday* the 10th of *Jan.* 1737 Mr. *Payne* paid into Mr. *Hoare's* Shop 340 l. this Sum of Money *Cross* carried in Company with him, and was the Sum which he afterwards mentioned upon his being arrested ; Mr. *Payne* took a Note for the Money that he might draw it out again, in small Sums as he should want it, but it being paid in *Portugal* Money, Mr. *Payne* was told that when he drew for it, he must draw for *Portugal* Money ; and Mr. *Payne* wrote his Name in their Book, *Cross* was present during this Time, and look'd over the Book while Mr. *Payne* wrote his Name, whether *Cross* then conceived a Thought of counterfeiting Mr. *Payne's* Hand, or whether it was some Days after is not known, but the Money was paid in on the 10th of *Jan.* and the Draught bears date the 12th, as the following Copy will shew.

Jan. 12. 1737.

Pray pay to Mr. Abram Jones, or Berer the Sum of 75 l. and place the same to the Account of

Your Humble Servant

William Payne.

To Messrs. Hoare and Comp. in Fleet-street.

To be paid in *Portugal* Money.

The Money to this Draught was paid at Mr. *Hoare's* Shop, and equally divided between them, but the Particulars of this Transaction we shall defer till they were taken, and then relate it from *Ramsley's* own Evidence.

This Money being paid without any Scruple, they fancied they could pursue this Method with Safety, and *Ramsley* made an Attempt or two of

the same Kind which succeeded likewise, but upon sending *Carr* with a Note for 125*l.* he was stopp'd, and with much Difficulty escaped, however being known this blow'd all their Designs, a Reward was offered some Time afterwards for the apprehending them, and describing their Persons very particularly; *Cross* had been gone into the Country soon after they had received the Money, fearing the Consequences, which he might justly dread.

Ramsley and *Carr* finding they were closely pursued, insomuch that going into a House in *Arun-del Street*, when the Advertisement came out, they were afraid of being taken, and immediately went and procured themselves Sailors Habits, and made their Escape out of Town. They had been at *Coventry* before as the Baronet and his Man, and as they had done nothing to hurt them there, they thought that wou'd be a proper Rendezvouz for them; accordingly thither they went, and *Ramsley* by his genteel Behaviour, and splendid Appearance, adding the Charms of a Title, soon made himself Master of the Affections of Miss *M—d*, a young Lady of that Place of a considerable Fortune: he pursued his Amour for some Time with uncommon Success, insomuch that he got two Diamond Rings from her worth a large Sum, and besides them inveigled her out of 500*l.* in Money at Times; but seeing the Advertisements reach *Coventry*, and fearing they shou'd be known, notwithstanding their Disguises, they thought it adviseable to decamp, and go cross the Country another Way; so they left *Coventry* and went away towards *Lancashire*; but here they were as bad off as ever, for Mr. *Hoare's* Advertisement had reach'd this Part of the Country

before them, and they were both apprehended and committed to *Lancaster* Goal, where having Money they were treated handsomely, and allowed more Liberty than the rest of the Prisoners, which they made use of accordingly, for by some Means or other they got some Laudanum, and our Sham Baronet pretending that his Relations were coming up from *Scotland* to clear him from this Imputation, for Joy thereof invited the Keepers to Supper, where the Glass going briskly round, they applied their perpared Dose, which had the desir'd Effect. Whilst the Keepers were asleep, they made their Escape. They immediately went away towards *Liverpool* thinking to light of some Shipping there, and so probably get away; next Day they met with *Cross* at a Place called *Eastham* Boathouse over against *Liverpool*; and there *Cross* told *Ramsley* that he flew for fear of any Accident that might happen, and that he was more afraid of *Carr* than him, and upon enquiring what brought them there? *Ramsley* told him of the Advertisements in the Papers and the Reward offered, which till then *Cross* knew nothing of. Upon this they agreed to go all together to *Chester*, and so to *Ireland*, but the Keepers were so enraged at their Escape that the whole Country round were raised, and lay in wait for them, and they were all taken, and carried to *Chester* Goal, where they lay 'till Word was sent up to *London*, and they were accordingly brought up under a Guard to the *Axe* Inn in *Aldermanbury*; from whence they were carried before a Magistrate, where *Ramsley* was admitted an Evidence, *Car* was sent to *Newgate*, and *Ramsley* to the *Compter*.

While *Ramsley* was in the *Compter*, a poor un- happy Man one *C—le—n* was confin'd there for Debt, and *Ramsley* took this Opportunity to be
great

great with his Wife ; this was their first Acquaintance, which I mention here because I shall have Occasion to mention her more particularly hereafter.

When the Sessions came on, which was in *May* 1738, *Cross* and *Carr* were call'd down to their Trial, and among other Evidences against them had the Mortification to see their Friend *Ramsay*. *Carr* was tried first, and the Jury brought in their Verdict Special. They found the Facts as follow, That *Richard Carr* on the 26th of *Jan.* then last, uttered and published as true, the forged Note set forth in the Indictment with Intent to deceive Messrs. *Hoare*, and *Arnold* of 75 *l.* that at the Time of uttering and publishing the Same, he knew it to be false and counterfeit ; that he the said *Car*, by Vertue of that counterfeit Note did receive of *William Atkinson* then Servant to Mr. *Hoare* and Comp. the Sum of 75 *l.* being the Money of Messrs. *Hoare* and *Arnold* ; That 74 *l.* 16 *s.* Part of the said Sum was paid in *Portugal* Coin, and the remaining 4 *s.* in current and lawful Money of *Great Baitain*, referring Points of Law to the Judgment of the Court. The next Day *Cross* was brought down to the *Old Bailey*, to be tried for the same Fact. After Mr. *Hoare*'s Clerk had proved what was necessary on his Part, and other Persons were called to prove the Draught a Counterfeit ; *Ramsay* appeared and gave his Evidence, as follows :

I know the Prisoner very well ; the first Time I ever saw this Note was on *Thursday* the 26th of *Jan.* last ; on that *Thursday* Morning *Carr* (who was tried last Night for this Fact.) and I met in *Guildhall* according to Appointment, as we were walking on one Side of the Hall, we met the Prisoner, and one *Sands*. After we had talk'd together

ther for some Time, the Prisoner drew this Note out of his Pocket, and said if you'll undertake to receive this Note, I can draw for Thousands upon Others. I said it wou'd be hazardous and dangerous, and that I did not care to undertake it, we consulted together about it ; and at last it was agreed that *Carr* and I shou'd go to the Chevalier's Billiard Table in *Moorfields*, and we were to play 'till the Prisoner had lost a certain Sum to *Carr* ; then he was to offer *Carr* the Note, and tell him he might go and receive that Note, and he wou'd pay him what he had lost. The Reason of this Proceeding was, That if *Carr* shou'd be detected when he went with the Note, or shou'd be call'd in Question about it, the Woman who keeps the Billiard Table shou'd be a Witness for him. According to our Agreement, *Carr* and I went that Day to the Billiard Table and play'd : In some little Time the Prisoner and his Friend *Sands* follow'd us, and he the Prisoner challeng'd *Carr* to play ; in about an Hour *Carr* won 30*l.* of the Prisoner and then *Carr* demanding the Money he had won. The Prisoner threw down this Note, telling him he had not Money enough about him to pay him, but he might take that Note upon Mr. *Hoare*, and he might go and receive it, and might pay himself. *Carr* told the Prisoner it was Dinner Time ; however if he wou'd go to the Three Tuns in *New Street, Fetter Lane*, and take a Dinner, he wou'd go when he had din'd ; Upon this the Prisoner, I, *Carr*, and *Sands*, went to the Three Tuns, and called for a Room, and I think we had Part of a Fillet of Veal for Dinner : Before we had half din'd the Prisoner seem'd uneasy, upon which *Carr* said — Give me the Note—I'll go and Fortune be my Guide.

The Prisoner gave him the Note, and he immediately went out with it; *Sands* followed him at a Distance, and if he shou'd be stopp'd, he was to have come back, and given us Intelligence that we might have made off: The Prisoner and I waited for *Car's* Return some little Time, then I began to be uneasy; so I went down to the Door, where I met *Car*; he was come back, and told us the Business was done, the Note wou'd be paid, only it wanted a little Thing, called an Indorsement, and when that was done, it wou'd be paid. With Persuasion I wrote on the Back of the Note—*Abram Irons*. Then *Car* took the Note, and went with it again, *Sands* follow'd him at a Distance, I followed *Sands*, and the Prisoner followed me; but before we got near Mr. *Hoare's*, *Car* was come out with the Money in his Handkerchief: Upon this we went back to the *Three Tuns*, where *Cross* the Prisoner told *Carr* he had made a Blunder, for he had brought but 74 *l.* 6 *s.* instead of 75 *l.* Upon dividing the Money, a Dispute arose, whether we should all be equal Sharers, and the Prisoner insisted upon it, that as we were all equally concerned, we all should be equal Sharers. When he first produced the Note, he produced it as a forg'd Note, and told us he had paid Money in at Mr. *Hoare's* for Mr. *Payne* some Time before, but he did not mention the particular Time; out of the Money received, we had each of us Five 3 *l.* 12 Pieces, and some small Money, and the Prisoner had his Share.

The Fact was plainly proved, and *Cross* was found guilty, notwithstanding *Car's* Verdict was left Special; but *Cross* has been since respited to abide by the Special Verdict.

Thus

Thus *Ramsley* got rid of two of his Companions, whom he gave up to save himself, and being once more at Liberty, he sought out his old Acquaintance *Udal*, whom he persuaded to turn Evidence in order to save himself, *Udal* did so, and did not put *Ramsley* in his first Information, but afterwards in a second One he serv'd him in his own Kind; for he inform'd against *John Slade* and *Henry Fluellin*. This *Fluellin* was an Acquaintance of *Ramsley's*, but *Ramsley* fearing *Udal's* Intentions got out of the Way, so that he escaped for that Time; for *Fluellin* tax'd *Udal* on his Trial, of having made an Information to save himself; but finding the People he informed against cou'd not be taken, he made another, and put him and *Slade* into it, and that *Car*, who was then in *Newgate* drew his Information. To which *Udal* replied, that *Ramsley* and he had got some Things from a Surgeon, and he was taken up on that Account, that while he was in Custody, *Ramsley* and *Fluellin* sent him a Letter, in which they promis'd him some Subsistence; and that was the Reason he did not put them into the first Information. But when he was before Justice *Margetts*, he thought if he did not inform all he knew, he would not admit his Information. *Udal* himself some Time afterwards was hang'd for a Robbery on the Highway, and then *Ramsley* thinking himself secure ventured to appear in Town; and what was still more favourable to him his old Comrade *Car* died in *Newgate*.

Upon his coming to Town, he fell into Acquaintance with *Snowd* and *Wells*. *Snowd* and *Ramsley* applied to the Rev. Mr. *Westley*, one of the Leaders of the *Methodists*, and making use of all the strain'd Cant, and forced Grimaces, which they had observed in several of his Followers, they

they informed him that they were willing to be received into his Society ; accordingly they were, and behaved so well that they not only acquired the Good-will and Esteem of several of the *Sisters* whom they careſs'd like the reſt of their Brethren in all brotherly Love ; but alſo were in ſuch Repute with their pretended Inſpired Paſtor that he entrusted them with Plates to collect the Fool's Pence at *Briſtol*, whither they had followed him ; but all his Inſpiration cou'd not diſcover that they were a Couple of Thieves who intended to rob him, or rather his ſimple unthinking Followers, which they did to the Amount of about 30 *l.* and then they threw off the Foot-trav'ling Saints, and put on the Gallants, and bowl'd up to *London* in a Chaiſe and Pair ; *Ramſey* hath often declared, that he thought this a good Action, ſince it was but *Tit for Tat*.

When they came to Town they changed their Names and took a large Houſe in *Brook-ſtreet*, *Groveſnor Square*, which was furniſhed out for an Apothecary's ; here they lived in a good Manner, *Snowd* was a Surgeon, and *Ramſey* an Apothecary, upon the Strength of this Shop, they got a very large Credit, and had Houſehold Goods of all Sorts ſent in from various Tradeſmen ; but as their Deſign was not to continue long there, they made Money of all that was brought in, and moved off ; *Ramſey* however cou'd not conceal himſelf ſo much, but one of his Creditors found him out, and he was arreſted and thrown into the *Marſhalſea*. From the Time of quitting the Shop 'till he was arreſted he lived in private Lodgings in *Bandy Leg Walk* in *Southwark*, with Mrs. C—n, whom we mentioned before, who had left her Huſband ; ſhe ſold Gin about the Streets, and *Ramſey* and *Snowd* uſ'd to go to Apothecary's

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Shops

Shops to ask Advice, and so watch their Opportunity to carry off a Cane, a Sword, a Hat, or what they cou'd : While he lived there with Mrs. C—n, he was charged with a Robbery on the Highway.—

While *Ramsley* was confined in the *Marshalsea*, *Snowd*, was charg'd with several Robberies on the Highway, and particularly *One* for which he was condemned, but obtained his Majesty's Royal Leave to transport himself for Life : But as *Snowd* lay sometime before he cou'd obtain this Grace, and every body expected he wou'd be executed ; the careful Retailer of Dying Speeches, and Midwife to the elaborate Works of *Mother G—ie*, finding *Snowd* not willing to give him an Account of what Robberies he had committed, or the Transactions of his Life ; and being informed that *Ramsley* had been very conversant with *Snowd* thought him a proper Person to embellish his *Newgate* Biography, and accordingly applies to Him. *Ramsley* was as I have said before in the *Marshalsea*, in a very bad Condition, and there this Relief came at a very proper Time ; *Ramsley* drew up a long Detail of Facts, some true and some not ; however they served to fill the Catalogue, the Printer was pleased to the greatest Degree, expecting that his then next Dying Speech wou'd out sell all their Predecessors, when to his unexpected Grief *Snowd* was reprieved, and the best Collection of Robberies he ever had put into his Hands were render'd intirely useless. *Ramsley* who had been handsomely rewarded for his Trouble represented to him that it wou'd be wrong to publish it as the Offenders had received his Majesty's Clemency, and that such an Indulgence might possibly make them think how to retrieve the Credit they had lost, which

which the publishing an Account of their Lives wou'd fix an indelible Blot on; and follow them wheresoever they went. The Ingenious Schemist replied, that he had no Intention to prejudice either *Snowd* or *Wells*; but he thought the Robberies they had committed were too good to be lost, and tho' he could make no use of them on their Account, yet he did not doubt but he shou'd soon have some other noted Persons under Cognizance, and this List was so good, and so well drawn up that he cou'd furnish three or four Heroes out of them, and by properly blending them make three good Dying Speeches, where otherwise he cou'd had but one.

Robert Ramsey having now lost all his former Acquaintance applied to his Brother *John*, who 'till he was perswaded by him had never entertained a Thought of following such Courses, but employed himself in the Business of Snuff-box-making, to which he served his Time. *John* withstood the Sollicitations for a considerable Time, but at length being prevailed upon by the golden Enticements of his Brother, he at length consented, and first of all they went upon the same Lay as *Snowd* and he had done before, viz. *Clacking the Doctor*; but after this they went upon the SNEAK; that is, they would walk up and down pretty soon in the Morning, when the Maid-servants us'd to be going of Errands, and leave the Doors a-jar; then *Robert Ramsey* us'd to go in, and *John* us'd to wait at the Door, in order to stop the Servant if he saw her coming, and ask her some frivolous Question or other to stop them in the Street till his Brother *Robert* cou'd get out; sometimes they went their Rounds about Noon, with a green Bag like an Attorney and his Clerk, and when the Family were with-

drawn, they would find an Opportunity to slip in and clear the Sideboard of the Plate. This Plate they us'd to file the Arms out of, and then Mrs. C—n, or *John Ramsey* us'd to sell it. They had large Quantities by them sometimes, and when they dined at their Lodgings wou'd set out a Sideboard of different Sorts of Plate. *Robert Ramsey* and his Mistress had at one Time, two Dozen Pair of Candlesticks. This Plate they sold at different Times in small Parcels, and to different Silversmiths.

The most particular Facts which *John Ramsey* knows of, or has heard his Brother relate, are as follow :

One *Saturday* Morning, at a House in *Devonshire-street*, they perceived a Maid come out for some Sand, *Robert Ramsey* went in and found a Silver Pint Mug full of Small Beer, he flung the Beer about the Parlour, and came out with the Mug in his Handkerchief. They met the Maid returning with her Sand, but she took no Notice of them, nor they of her. Their going always very well dress'd was often a Means of Nobody's suspecting them.

Some short Time after, on a *Saturday* in the Afternoon, as they were going up *North-street*, *Red Lion Square*, they saw a Maid washing a Parlour, and thought that there was something to be done there, but cou'd not tell how to get in ; they watch'd till the Maid went down Stairs, and then *Robert Ramsey* went in, and took a Silver-hilted Sword, and a Hanger ; the Maid came up and met him, he had got the Sword, &c. under his Coat, and asking for some feign'd Name he got off, but was frighted as he went along for the People spy'd him, and said that Gentleman's extravagant for he wears two Swords at a Time, when

when he came into *Lincoln's Inn*, he gave his Brother *John* the Hanger, they broke them both to Pieces, and sold the Silver to a Silversmith in *Paternoster Row*.

Another Time they saw a Door a-jar in *Soho-Square*, and a Dust-Cart standing at the Door, they went in, and being well dress'd, the Dust-man pass'd by, bow'd and took no further Notice of them; they took from thence three Silver-hilted Swords, and a Gold-headed Cane, which they sold to a Goldsmith in *Fleetstreet*.

One Morning last Summer, they were going along by *Burlington-street*, and saw a Footman come out and shut to a Door, *John Ramsey* watch'd the Footman a great Distance, and thinking he wou'd not return soon, they ventured in; they found nothing in the Parlour worth taking, and none of the Family as they thought were up, they went up Stairs, and opening a Door, they found an old Lady at Prayers, she rose up, and without turning to see who it was, said,—*you may come in John*, and withdrew into another Apartment. *Robert Ramsey* went in, and took down a Gold Watch that hung upon a Sconce; just as they were come down into the Hall they met the Footman, and telling him that they were directed to that House for the Lady *Betty G—n's*, the Footman informed them where it was, and they begg'd Pardon for their Mistake, and took Leave in a very complaisant Manner.

They had frequently observed as they went up great *Russel Street*, a House where there was a great Quantity of Plate; they had been there several Times, but cou'd never find an Opportunity of getting into the House there was such a Number of Servants always about; at last they saw a Boy with a Bit of Bread and Butter in his Hand

Hand coming up the Steps of the Area out of the Kitchen, they ask'd him if Mr. *John* was within, they happened to hit the right Name; for the Boy told them he had been ill some time and spit Blood; then they ask'd the Boy where the Apothecary lived, the Boy innocently told them where, and that his Name was *Hyam*, this was all they wanted, for the next Morning, *Robert Ramsey* mixt up a Bottle of Stuff, and pretending he came from the Apothecary was show'd up to the sick Servant; he saw a vast Quantity of Plate in the Kitchen, but could not possibly come at any, however he brought off as he came down Stairs two silver hilted Swords, a Steel-hilted Sword inlaid with Gold, and two gold lac'd Waistcoats, the Waistcoats they kept, and wore, and the Swords they sold for about 9*l*.

As they were going down *Fleet-street* one Evening, they overtook an elderly Gentleman, who seem'd to be almost blind, for he run against a Post, they put him in the right Way, and speaking very courteously to him, he ask'd them what it was a Clock, they told him they believ'd it was past Nine: He said, he must then go home, and his Man had got out of the Way, and that if they were going farther in the City he should be oblig'd to them for leaning upon one of their Arms. Which they did, and he wou'd go into the *Rose Tavern* in *Cheapside*, and give them a Bottle of Wine; while he was there, he pull'd out a large Gold Watch, and desired them to tell him what it was a-Clock; *Robert Ramsey* took it to look at, got off the Outside Case, and gave it him again; he put it up, and perceiv'd nothing of the Matter; they insisted upon seeing him home into *Broadstreet*, and in return when they came there, the Centleman wou'd treat them with

with another Bottle of Wine, and while he was gone to order it, they open'd a Drawer in the Room, and took out a Bag with 48 Guineas in it, then drank up the Bottle of Wine, and went off without Suspicion.

They observ'd in *Cheapside* of a Sunday, a Country-looking Servant Wench gaping out of a Window; they knock'd at the Door, and ask'd if Mr. *John* was within; the Girl answer'd, that he was gone to Church with his Master, oh! says *Ramsay*, we must see him by all Means for 'tis Business of great Importance. Well, replies the Girl, if you are in such main Haste, I'll step and call him out of Church, if you'll walk in and stay a-bit: They press'd her to it by all Means, but while she was gone, they went up Stairs, and took 67 Guineas out of a Bureau, a Three Pint Silver Tankard, and five large Silver Spoons, and came out before the Maid returned.

Seeing a House to be let near *Gloucester-street*, *Queen-Square*, they went to enquire according to the Directions of the Bill (they were then as Lawyers with their green Bag) an old Scotch Woman come to the Door. They told her their Business, she ask'd them into the Parlour; while she went to call her Mistress, they were very expeditious and clear'd the Beaufet of 35*l.* worth of Plate and some China, and walk'd off without taking the House.

They took a large Pair of Silver Candlesticks, a Quart Cup, and a Pepper Caster from a House in *Red-lion-street*.

Nor were their Exploits without a Mixture of Amours, tho' they always made their Love subservient to their Interest; once in particular, they took a Turn to *Greenwich* in Holiday-time, and there their Appearance and Address recommended

mended them to a Bakers Wife, and a Servant Maid in *B---it's* Buildings, the Result of which was, that one made the honest Baker enter the horned Herd, and the other professing Courtship to the Maid, visited her several Times, 'till he got an Opportunity of taking some Guineas out of a Drawer, and then her Master lost his Money, and she her Sweetheart both together.

Seeing a Door open in *New Bond Street*, *Robert Ramsey* went in, and found a Lady fast asleep over her Work, and brought away a Silver Tea-Kettle, Stand and three new *Holland* Shirts, which the Lady had been making of.

Once in *Red Lion Square*, they saw a charming Gold-headed Cane stand in the Window, but they cou'd not tell how to come at it; they immediately began as if they were at Play together, and *John* threw his Hat down the Area, and knock'd to beg the Footman to give it him up again, while the Footman was gone for it, *Robert* whips up the Cane, and even stood talking to the Footman with it in his Hand, yet went off undiscovered.

The last Robbery *Ramsey* committed was at Mr. *Glynn's* in *Hatton Garden*, in Company with his Brother, they were narrowly watch'd, *Ramsey* had the Fortune to escape but the Brother being follow'd from Place to Place, was at last taken at a Public House in *Cursitors Alley*, from whence he was carried before Col. *Deveil* and charged with the Fact, he persisted in denying that he was any Ways concerned in a Robbery but being taken a-part, and led by Perswasion as well as intimidated by Threats he consented to become an Evidence; and as the World perhaps may reflect upon him, as being a Witness against his own Brother, to obviate such Reflections it will be

be necessary to consider, that not only the natural Regard which every Man hath to the Preservation of his own Life induced him thereto, but that both he and his Brother had been threaten'd by a Woman whom his Brother kept Company with; as likewise that his Brother himself had once made himself an Evidence before; he therefore concluded that as then an Opportunity offered, his best Way was to make a full Discovery and Confession of all the Facts wherein he had been concerned and determine to amend his Life for the future. As a farther Instance of which he offers this to the Publick, in order to deter other unwary Youths from being drawn in to the like Misfortunes; *Robert Ramsey* being an Instance how a Lad endow'd with good natural Parts, happy in a liberal Education, a gentle Person, and Address may apply them to the worst of Uses and at last end in Ignominy. As likewise to assure them that however successful Villany may be for some Time, it is at last sure to be attended with Ruin and Destruction. Nor was this his only Motive in communicating these Transactions to the World. Far from designing to cast any Reflections on the Memory of his unhappy Brother, he has suffer'd the Punishment which the Law inflicts on Crimes like his, and with him let his Faults be buried, but as many innocent Persons have been prejudiced by them, he thinks it a Duty incumbent on him, and in order to make all the Repartation in his Power, that these Crimes should be laid open to the World, since many of them were committed in such a Manner that the Blame might be laid on an honest Servant, who was indeed no otherwise Fault, than by being too Careless; If therefore any Master or Mistress have entertained any Suspicion

picion of their Servants on that Account, it is to be hoped that upon Perusal hereof those only will be blamed who deserve it, tho' he thinks it will not be amiss to give a Caution to Servants, Maids especially to make their Morning Errands shorter or better secure their Doors since most of the Facts wherein he and his Brother were concerned, were committed, during the Morning Salutations of Maid Servants to their Neighbours at the Chandler's Shops.

After *Ramsley's* Condemnation a Petition was presented to his Majesty in which Mr. *Glynn* the Prosecutor, was so good as to join; but his Crimes were of such a Nature, and had been carried on so long, that they left no Room for Royal Clemency, to interpose in his Behalf; accordingly He was executed at *Tyburn* on *Wednesday* the 13th of *Jan.* 1741. His Body was conveyed thence by his Friends to a House in *Giltspur-Street* where it lay 'till *Friday* Evening and was then interred at *St. Mary Staining's* near *Goldsmith's Hall*. With his last Words he desired that his fatal Catastrophe might be set up as an Example to the unwary Youths of this City how they give Way to the pernicious Custom of *Gaming*, and particularly that they avoid that Gulph of Destruction the Place where it is so much encouraged in *Covent Garden*, to which he declared, he ascribed the Source of his Misfortunes and the only Cause of his untimely End.



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